

Shrewsbury High School Athletic Campus Improvement Plans

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Topics

- Comprehensive Report: Gale Associates
 - Funded by the Boosters Club [Thank You!]
- Rationale for Improvements
- Benefits of Having a Turf Field
- Recommended Scope of Work
 - Three Priorities & Cost Estimates
- Health & Environmental Considerations
- Funding Plan
- Project Timeline
- Procurement Process
- Action Required to Begin Process

District Goals: 2015-2017

- **Community Goal:**

- 1) Partner with booster and community groups, local businesses, and alumni in order to raise \$1 million towards the renovation and improvement of the athletics infrastructure at Shrewsbury High School.

Comprehensive Report:

Gale Associates

- Funded by the Boosters Club in support of improvements to the entire athletic campus to enhance playing/practice conditions and opportunities for **all outdoor sports**
- We will focus on renovation of multi-sport fields, which can be used by youth sport teams as well as the community

Rationale for Improvements

- Current condition of grass fields
 - Sinkholes, bare spots, poor/blocked drainage
- Inability to play at home in bad weather
 - Both during and after rain/snow
 - Bus costs incurred to play on turf elsewhere
- Cannot properly maintain grass given athletic schedules and demand for field use
- Teams need more field play time

Current SHS Field Conditions



View of football goal post and worn turf area around soccer goal area.

Current SHS Field Conditions



Large, long bare spot on stadium
football field

Current SHS Field Conditions



Uneven depressions, poorly drained areas of field, and irrigation box near soccer playing area.

Current SHS Field Conditions



Sinkholes in Field Hockey/Lacrosse field.

Benefits of Having A Turf Field

- Better playing conditions for multiple high school sports teams
 - A turf stadium field would be used by soccer, lacrosse, football, field hockey, track, cross country
- All students benefit via use during Physical Education class
- Extended use of fields due to “all weather” playability of turf fields
 - Allows for earlier start to practice seasons
 - Eliminates moving/re-scheduling of games due to rain
 - Allows SHS to host playoff games

Benefits of Having A Turf Field

- **Turf allows for community use of fields**
 - Not allowed today because of need to preserve grass fields for SHS teams
 - Youth sport programs for soccer, lacrosse & football could host games and jamborees
- Potential revenue generator**
 - Other districts report revenue from turf field rentals to club teams, other districts, etc.
 - Any revenue would go into a fund to include future turf replacement
- Reduced maintenance**

Turf In Other Districts

- Mid-Wachusett League turf stadiums
 - Wachusett Regional
 - Leominster
 - Shepherd Hill
 - Nashoba Regional
 - Westborough
 - Lunenburg
 - Oakmont
 - Tyngsborough
 - Marlborough (fall 2016)
 - Groton Dunstable (2017)

Turf In Other Districts



(Clockwise, L to R) Leominster, Wachusett, Nashoba

Turf In Other Districts

*“This is the best investment ever made in athletics at Doyle Field. We can play in any kind of weather, no rainouts, and all four sports teams and leagues love the playing surface. Without jinxing ourselves, we have had no major injuries on this beautiful surface. We highly recommend this type of surface as it has saved us weekly mowing and bagging as well as fertilizing and other treatments.” - **Patrick LaPointe, Doyle Field Coordinator, Leominster***

*“At WHS we could not operate without our turf field. The lack of field space on campus would make it impossible to have all of our varsity teams play their home games on the high school campus. A single grass field would not be able to handle the amount of use the turf field accommodates. The turf field is the center of our facility and truly serves as our "home" field.” - **Johanna DiCarlo, Director of Athletics, Westborough Public Schools***

SHS Stadium Track & Field Rendering



Paved “D” areas for track and field events.

Recommended Scope of Work:

Priority #1

Priority 1	
Stadium Field*	
Turf Field	\$ 780,000
Pave "D" Areas for track events	\$ 100,000
Fencing	\$ 45,000
Scoreboard	\$ 40,000
Sub-Total	\$ 965,000
Contingency (15%)	\$ 144,750
Design/Prof Fees & Construction Mgt. (7%)	\$ 67,550
Inflation Factor from Concept to Build (5%)	\$ 48,250
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 1,225,550

Recommended Scope of Work:

Priority #2

Priority 2	
Field Hockey/Lacrosse Field	
Turf	\$ 850,000
Lighting	\$ 350,000
Walkways/Appurtances	\$ 40,000
Sub-Total	\$ 1,240,000
Contingency (15%)	\$ 186,000
Design/Prof Fees & Construction Mgt. (7%)	\$ 86,800
Inflation Factor from Concept to Build (5%)	\$ 62,000
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 1,574,800

Recommended Scope of Work:

Priority #3

Priority 3	
Amenities Bldg and Seating	
Amenities Bldg	\$ 500,000
Grand Stand [350 seat]	\$ 94,000
Water/Sewer/Elec hook-ups	\$ 80,000
Sub-Total	\$ 674,000
Contingency (15%)	\$ 101,100
Design/Prof Fees & Construction Mgt. (7%)	\$ 47,180
Inflation Factor from Concept to Build (5%)	\$ 33,700
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 855,980

Health & Environmental Considerations

- Media reports have raised concerns about the possible association between playing on artificial turf and the development of cancers
 - Studies to date do not show elevated cancer risk
 - Government study launched in February but results aren't expected for 2 years
- We'll continue to evaluate new products as they are developed to help minimize public concern & the possibility of risk to our athletes
- Our athletes are already playing on turf, both at the high school level and younger

Funding Plan

- Given competing demands for public financial resources, we believe this project is best funded with “private” funding.
- Funding sources may include:
 - Grants
 - Corporate sponsorship via naming rights
 - Youth group donations
 - Private, individual donations received via a Capital Campaign to begin upon School Committee approval

Funding Plan

- It will be imperative to establish a fundraising committee to work under the direction of Michelle Biscotti and Kathleen Keohane
- Fundraising committee to include:
 - Development professionals from the community
 - Past & present SHS administrators
 - Representatives from youth sports leagues
 - SHS alumni
 - Local business people
 - Current school/sports parents

Project Timeline: Priority #1

Plan A- Aggressive	
2016	
June	Gain School Committee approval and authorization to move forward
July	Secure a design firm and receive project renderings/concepts
July-August	Begin seeking large dollar corporate donors via naming rights
September	Begin public Capital Campaign seeking individual donors
December	Complete design, permitting, and bid package
2017	
February	Bid project
March	Bid award- CONTINGENT UPON SECURING ALL NECESSARY FUNDS
June-August	Construction- must coordinate with track re-surfacing project
September	Begin use of field

Project Timeline: Priority #1

Plan B- Alternate	
2016	
June	Gain School Committee approval and authorization to move forward
July	Secure a design firm and receive project renderings/concepts
July-August	Begin seeking large dollar corporate donors via naming rights
September	Begin public Capital Campaign seeking individual donors
December	Complete design, permitting, and bid package
2017	
January-December	Continue fundraising effort
December	Complete design, permitting, and bid package
2018	
March	Bid award- CONTINGENT UPON SECURING ALL NECESSARY FUNDS
June-August	Construction
September	Begin use of field

Procurement Process

- Because donated funds become the property of the Town of Shrewsbury/School Department, all goods and services related to this project are subject to Massachusetts General Laws pertaining to procurement
- The Prevailing Wage Law will also apply given that it is a public works project

Action Required to Begin Process

- It is recommended that the School Committee vote to support the three priorities of this project, the establishment of restricted gift account to receive donations, and use of up to \$65,000 from the Facility Rental Fund to fund the design and other related professional services for Priority #1.